GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:686
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
RURAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the duration of rural languages programmes relayed from Lucknow and Varanasi Doordarshan Kendra, language-wise;

(b) whether there is any scheme to increase the said time limit;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount made available to the Lucknow and Varanasi Doordarshan Kendra for relaying programmes under the commission category during the last financial year;

(e) whether any proposal to increase the amount to commission and number of programmes under the said category during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): Prasar Bharati have informed that Doordarshan Kendra, Lucknow,relays rural programmes for 150 minutes per week in Hindi/regional dialects and Doordarshan Kendra, Varanasi, relays rural programmes for 145 minutes per week in Bhojpuri.

(b): Prasar Bharati has informed that at present there is no scheme to increase the time limit.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Prasar Bharati has informed that for commissioning of programes, an amount of Rs.1.50 crores was made available to Doordarshan Kendra, Lucknow, and that no amount has been paid to Doordarshan Kendra, Varanasi, for commissioning of programmes.

(e) & (f): Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan Kendra, Lucknow, has proposed to increase the Budget upto Rs.3.20 crores, for the current financial year to clear all the deferred proposals.